MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI.

The Most Important Town in the State.

ONE OF THE GREATEST RAILROAD CENTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST.

ITS ADVANTAGES FOR ALL KINDS OF MANUFACTURING.

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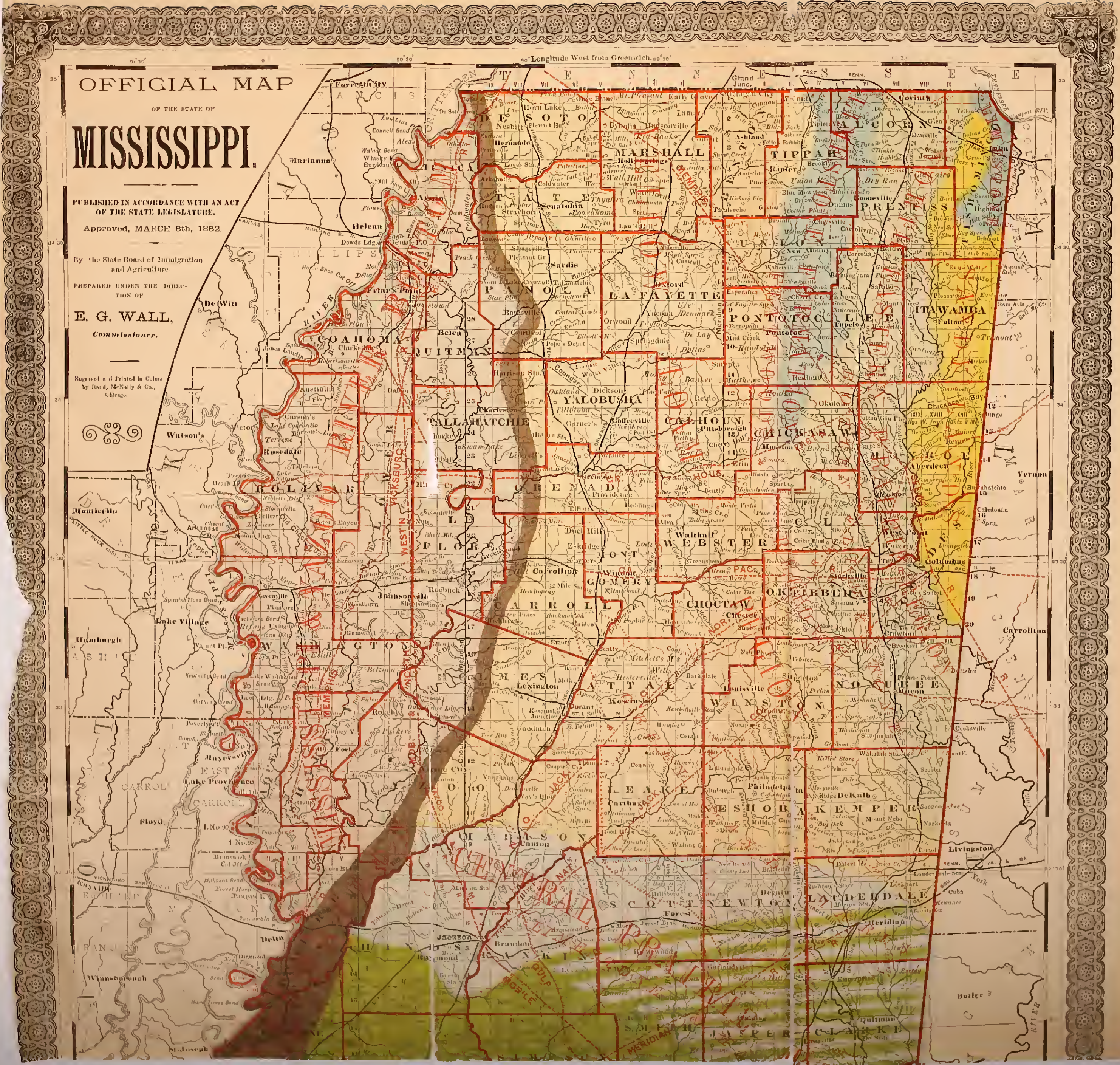
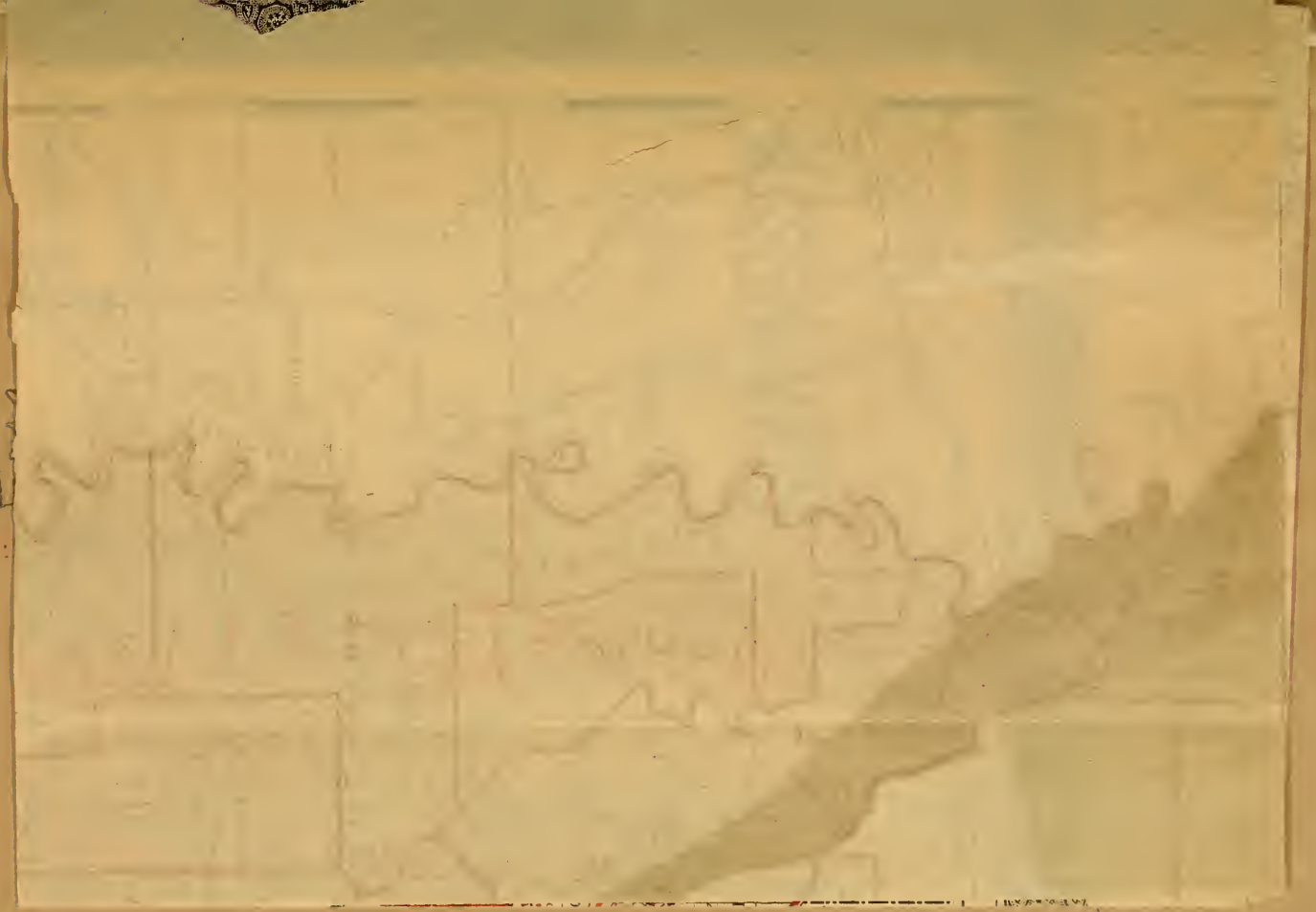

OFFICIAL MAP
OF THE STATE OF
MISSISSIPPI.
PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN ACT OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE.
Approved, MARCH 8th, 1882.
By the State Board of Immigration and Agriculture.
PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
E. G. WALL,
Commissioner.
Longitude West from Greenwich



MISSISSIPPI;

ITS GREAT ADVANTAGES OFFERED FOR FARMING AND MANUFACTURING.

After careful search for correct information in regard to the resources of Mississippi, from personal knowledge we accept the very able report of Mr. A. B. Hurt, Special Agent of the Department of Agriculture, as accurate, and quote largely from his report as to climate, productions, resources, etc., of this State. Any information concerning Mississippi desired by parties visiting the World's Exposition at New Orleans, La., will be cheerfully given by Maj. S. A. Jonas, State Commissioner, or Maj. E. G. Wall, Immigration Agent, at Jackson, Miss., who will kindly furnish maps and pamphlets.

Mississippi lies between the 31st and 35th parallels of north latitude. The Mississippi river forms its entire boundary on the west, Alabama on the east, Tennessee on the north and Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico on the south. The extreme length of the State is 335 miles; extreme breadth, 190 miles. The area of the State is 50,000 square miles.

CLIMATE AND TEMPERATURE.

"The climate of Mississippi is all that could be desired for agricultural purposes. It is a happy medium between the extremes of heat and cold. The winters are short, mild and pleasant; the summers are in the main devoid of the intense heat often felt in more northern latitudes. The summer heat is, indeed, more prolonged, but much less oppressive than farther north, owing to the proximity of the State to the Gulf and the prevalence of cool, refreshing winds blowing from that direction. The thermometer seldom reaches 100° in summer in any part of the State. June, July and August are the hottest months,

but the range of temperature for the State in these three months is about from 64° to 95°, with a mean of about 81°. In winter ice of about an inch in thickness forms in the northern part of the State, while in the southern part frosts rarely occur. November, December and January are the coldest months. The average winter temperature is not below 45°, and the thermometer seldom falls to 25°. It is a well established fact that in the course of a year more out-door labor can be performed with less inconvenience than in regions farther north. The elevation of the State is, moreover, greater than is generally supposed, and this gives a climate normally belonging to regions from 1° to 2° farther north. This will appear more readily from the following table showing the elevation of sections on railroads running north and south:

Stations on the Mobile and Ohio R. R.		Stations on the Illinois Central R. R.	
Station.	Elevation	Station.	Elevation
	FEET.		FEET.
State Line	256	Osyka	250
Waynesboro	191	Magnolia	300
Quitman	281	Summit	420
Enterprise	243	Brookhaven	500
Meridian	236	Beauregard	450
Lockhart Summit	426	Hazlehurst	430
Macon	185	Crystal Springs	455
Brooksville	275	Terry	260
Crawford	316	Jackson	270
Artesia	244	Madison Station	350
West Point	242	Canton	320
Muldon	304	Durant	315
Okolona	311	Vaiden	355
Verona	307	Winona	380
Tupelo	280	Grenada	308
Baldwin	397	Water Valley	355
Booneville Summit	513	Oxford	685
Booneville	511	Holly Springs	850
Rienzi	441	Lamar	645
Corinth	443	Grand Junction	795

RAINFALL.

"Mississippi as an agricultural country has advantages unsurpassed in the vital matter of rainfall. The abundant luxuriant vegetation to be seen here on every hand during the hottest summer months shows the presence of ample moisture to vitalize and promote the growth of all vegetation. As a matter of course there are short seasons of drouth occasionally, for these occur everywhere, but they are less frequent here than in many States, and are generally confined to small and widely separated areas. The rainfall is usually copious throughout the State in spring and summer, while the annual precipitation is more or less evenly distributed in all sections of the State. From the south and west come the regular rain winds, bringing refreshing showers,

highly conducive to the growth of the cotton, the cereals and other vegetation. The tables of the census give the annual rainfall in North Mississippi at from 48 to 58 inches per annum. The high country lying between the Tombigbee and Yazoo rivers has fully 58 inches per annum, and the Yazoo delta has as much as 48 inches of annual rain fall. The degree to which the State is favored in this respect may be appreciated when it is remembered that the country west of the Mis sissippi ranges from 20 to as low as 4 inches of rainfall per annum. Kansas, Texas, and the Indian Territory have from 20 to 38 inches per annum, and Maine, New York, Virginia and Ohio from 32 to 46 inches per annum. Tennessee and Kentucky have from 46 to 56 inches per annum, the same as the north half of Mississippi, and the country near the Northern Lakes, east of the Mississippi, from 24 to 36 inches per annum.

"The State is well supplied with water courses and drainage. On the west the Mississippi river and its tributaries in the State drain the Great Yazoo delta and the hilly country adjacent thereto, while on the east the Tombigbee river and its several large tributaries drain the prairie region and that section of the State. The Tombigbee drains in Mississippi and Alabama an approximate area of 18,918 square miles. The Yazoo river and its tributaries drain a surface of 13,936 square miles. The Pearl river, from its source in Winston county to where it empties into the Gulf, drains a surface of 8,964 square miles. The Pascagoula river and its tributaries, running through the southern pine region and emptying into the Gulf, drains an area of 9,980 square miles. Besides these, there are numerous other rivers and small streams well distributed throughout the State. Generally the water courses on the west flow to the Mississippi river, on the east to the Tombigbee river, and on the South to the Gulf of Mexico. These are, therefore, the three great watersheds of the State.

HEALTH.

"If the old adage that 'health is wealth' be true, Mississippi may be considered an exceptionally opulent State. It is rich in the conditions of health, and the facts will demonstrate that it is one of the healthiest States in the Union. This subject is worthy of consideration here as vitally affecting the results of agriculture. An impression prevails in some places outside of the State that Mississippi is very unhealthy. How little foundation there is for this belief will be seen by an examination of the mortality tables of the United States census. It should

be remembered in this connection, that the statistics of health in Mississippi include, of course, the entire population, white and colored, and that the death rate among the colored population is quite high, being 17.28 per thousand throughout the Southern States. It is suggested in the census that the difference in mortality between the white and colored people in the Southern States is especially well marked, and is largely due to the relatively greater number of deaths among infants in the colored population. The following table of comparative statistics compiled from the census will be a sufficient answer to the assertion sometimes made that Mississippi is unhealthy:

Annual death rate for each thousand of population.

Massachusetts	18 50
New York	17 30
Virginia	15 32
Indiana	15 77
Texas	15 53
Kansas	15 52
Pennsylvania	14 92
Illinois	14 60
Kentucky	14 39
Alabama	14 20
Georgia	13 97
Colorado	13 10
Mississippi	12 80

THE NORTH-EASTERN PRAIRIE REGION.

The following counties lie wholly or partly within the section of the State usually denominated the "North-Eastern Prairie Region": Alcorn, Tishomingo, Itawamba, Union, Lee, Monroe, Prentiss, Lowndes, Clay, Noxubee, East Tippah, East Pontotoc, East Chickasaw, East Oktibbeha and North-East Kemper. These are not all prairie counties, strictly speaking, but are catalogued together as counties in which prairie lands occur to a greater or less extent. This section is sometimes designated as the Cretaceous or North-Eastern Lime Region. Its prominent agricultural and geographical features are dependent upon the several calcareous strata of the Cretaceous formation, with the exception of a few townships in the eastern part Tishomingo county, where the limestone and sandstone strata of the Lower Carboniferous formation prevail.

The Cretaceous formation in this State consists essentially of four different stages or beds, which have a west or south-west dip of about twenty-five feet to the mile. The uppermost of these divisions, the Ripley group, which appears to the westward of the others, consists of hard sandy limestone, with strata of blue shell marl between, and generally one of heavy gray calcareous top; these strata, overlaid by

a yellow or orange colored loam, combine to form what is known as the "Pontotoc ridge." The middle stratum consists of white clay marls or soft limestone—"rotten limestone"—and forms a level or gently undulating surface, mostly with heavy calcareous soils, partly prairie, partly oak uplands, and known as the Prairie Region proper. The other two sections—the Eutaw and Tombigbee Sand Groups—more or less clayey and partly limy; the region occupied by them is hilly and sandy, while there are abundant springs of water, principally freestone. The specific names here given to these stages or groups are the ones already recognized and understood to some extent. The lands in the territory of the Carboniferous formation, consisting of hard limestones and sandstones, do not differ essentially from the last mentioned groups, save, perhaps, in the abundance of pebbles on the surface and the many fine, cold, freestone springs.

THE FLATWOODS REGION.

This region embraces small portions of the counties of Tippah, Union, Pontotoc, Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Calhoun, Winston, Noxubee and Kemper. The level lands, timbered chiefly with post-oak, often accompanied by black-jack and short-leaf pine, popularly styled the "flatwoods," form a narrow belt which borders on the west the Cretaceous or North-Eastern Prairie Region. The usual width of the flatwoods proper is from 3 to 6 miles; in some places the bordering hills encroach upon them so as to greatly reduce their width; in others the hills recede so far as to enclose between them a level tract of 10 or 12 miles. Their outline is therefore much scalloped and difficult to define with accuracy. The district begins at the north on the southern bank of the Tippah Creek, in the county of the same name, and runs in a slightly southeastern direction toward De Kalb, Kemper County, where the Succarnochee River may be considered their southern limit; for beyond they gradually lose their character and pass into the common yellow-loam uplands of that portion of Alabama. It is an attractive, level country, and possesses an abundance of fine post-oak timber, valuable for railroad and building purposes. The soil is generally a hard gray or whitish clay when dry, and of a dark gray, almost black, when wet. Two kinds of soil are noticed, a light soil and a heavy soil, the latter being on the whole more prevalent than the former.

THE YELLOW-LOAM REGION.

This is the most extensive of the subdivisions, comprising Northwest Tippah, Marshall, the greater part of De Soto, East Panola, La-

Fayette, West Calhoun, Benton, Tate, Yalobusha, part of East Tallahatchie, Grenada, East Carroll, Montgomery, Webster, Choctaw, East Holmes, Northeast Yazoo, North Madison, Attala, Leake, Winston, Neshoba, part of Kemper, Lauderdale, Newton (greater part), and northeast corner of Scott Counties. The general characteristics of the soils of this region are thus defined: The better class of uplands are formed by a yellow or brownish-yellow loam, varying greatly in thickness from a few inches to as much as 3 feet, generally a light soil, underlaid by either loose sand or red hardpan of the orange formation; while on the poorer uplands the loam is very thin or entirely absent, and some of the materials of the orange sand, or their intermixture with the yellow loam, form a sandy soil, which, though often quite productive at first, wears out rapidly, unless good care is taken to preserve it. There are, of course, all degrees of transition from one extreme of soils to the other. The timber growth generally shows their character and value. A good size post-oak of sturdy, thickset growth, with stout, crooked branches, which decrease rapidly in thickness, and with a dense well shaped top, will never be found on a poor or easily exhausted soil; if, however, it is small and scrubby, with numerous small branches, and a long, tattered top, or its trunks are tall, thin, and tapering, with long, rod shaped branches, themselves often covered with stout foliage, and an open, irregular top, little is to be expected of the natural, resources of the soil. In determining the character of the soil by the timber, the size and growth of the trees, as well as their mode of growth, should be taken into consideration. In this region are the lands known as the "Marshall table-lands," which are among the best uplands in the state, and are considered to be particularly adapted to the production of cotton. The soil is formed of a brown loam, generally from 6 to 8 feet in thickness, sometimes more. The material is on the whole rather heavier than that of the yellow-loam lands of South Marshall and La Fayette Counties.

"The sturdy, vigorous growth of the post-oak and the hickory denote a soil of unusual fertility. In the northwest portion of Tippah County are apparently the same class of table.lands.

THE CENTRAL PRAIRIE REGION.

"Comprising, in the main, the portions underlaid by the calcerous Tertiary of the counties of Madison, Yazoo, Warren, Hinds, Rankin, Scott, Smith, Jasper, Newton, Lauderdale, Clark and Wayne.

The prairies characterizing this region are not generally the prevalent

features of its surface—not near to the extent to which this is the case in the Northeastern Prairie Region. They do not anywhere form such continuous or large bodies of land as is found occupying the surface of the country underlaid by the Cretaceous formation, nor is the surface of the country so gently undulating or generally level.

"The black prairie soil occurs in patches of a few acres to several thousand in extent, and intervening between elevated ridges occupied either by the orange-sand formation and its peculiar soils, or by the soils derived essentially from the materials of the clayey non-calcareous or gypseous stages of the Tertiary—forming in the western portion of the belt the lighter soils of the "gypseous prairie," and in the eastern portion of the belt the heavy intractable soils of the "hog wallow prairie." Both of these occupy, in general, positions above any contiguous "black prairie,"the latter being in the more hilly portions of the region confined to the slopes and bottoms of the streams. They are sometimes called "shell prairies" from the great abundance of fossil shells, accompanied sometimes by the remains of huge Zeuglodon. The ridge lands intervening between the several kinds of prairie lands bear, partly in the north, the character of the adjoining Yellow Loam Region, and in the south the character of the soils in the adjoining Long Leaf Pine Region. Beyond the Chickasawhay, in Clark and Wayne Counties, the black prairies are found on the summit of the ridges. Parts of the district here described, while not underlaid by the marl formations, are more nearly related in their features to those of the Prairie Region than to any other.

THE LONG LEAF PINE REGION.

"This extensive district embraces the counties, and parts of counties, of Clark, Wayne, Covington, Perry, Green, Jones, Marion, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike, Amite, Franklin, Harrison, Hancock, Jackson, Copiah, and Simpson.

"It presents great uniformity of character in its surface conformation, in its soils, and in its vegetation. The surface is generally undulating, not unfrequently hilly, especially where the uplands fall off towards the larger water courses; between these, however, often occur dividing plateaus, or table-lands, which are generally undulating, or mostly level. The surface soil of the uplands is generally very sandy. The bottom and second bottom lands, to which cultivation is generally, as yet, re-

stricted, are quite fertile, and yield good crops of sugar-cane, upland rice, corn, cotton, fruits, vegetables, &c.

THE YAZOO DELTA.

"The great, rich alluvial plain lying in Mississippi, and commonly nown as the Yazoo delta, is one of the most important formations, not only in the State, but in the entire Union. It lies between the Mississippi River on the west and the Yazoo River and its tributaries on the east, and from the line separating Mississippi and Tennessee on the north to Vicksburg on the south. It comprises about 6,250 square miles, or 4,000,000 acres, of some of the most fertile and productive soil in the world. It is larger than the combined area of Connecticut and Rhode Island, and almost half as large as these two states and Massachusetts all combined.

"This vast delta is ellipsodial in shape, and its dark, rich alluvium has been formed by the overflow of the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers and their tributaries. At its northern limit, the State line, it is very little more than 10 miles wide, but the Mississippi River, turning to the southwest, it widens rapidly, and 30 miles southward, where the dividing line between Panola and Tate Counties would strike the bluff near Helena, Arkansas, it is about 36 miles wide. Opposite Charleston, Tallahatchie County, the bottom is 58 miles wide. It reaches its greatest width about opposite the town of Carrollton, Carroll County, where it is about 68 miles wide, and from thence it at first narrows slowly, and at last rapidly. Opposite Yazoo City it is still more than 40 miles wide, but ends near Vicksburg, where the hills extend to the bank of the Mississippi River. Of all this fertile plain only about one eighth, or 500,000 acres, is improved, the remainder being covered with vast forests of valuable timber. The prejudice which long existed as to its unfitness for cultivation and for health is rapidly dying out.

COTTON PRODUCTION.

"The production of cotton must, in the very nature of things, ever remain one of the leading industries of Mississippi. The agricultural conditions of the State are especially favorable for the culture of this staple crop, while all the habits and traditions of its labor and of its landholders lead in this direction.

"Diversification of products is undoubtedly one of the pressing needs of the times, and there are ample scope and facilities for such diversification without trenching materially upon the yield of this great product.

As suggested by Mr. Edward Atkinson, the demand for cotton goods must continue to keep pace with increasing population and wealth, and the new purposes to which the fibre is constantly being applied. The world must depend upon the limited area where the staple can be successfully grown for its supply, and Mississippi, with its favorable soil and climate, and its great, rich, alluvial Yazoo delta, will always be an important factor in cotton production.

"It is not yet quite a hundred years since the cultivation of cotton was really begun in the United States. In 1719 it was suggested that the climate of South Carolina was favorable for its production, yet more than half a century elapsed before much attention was given to the subject, when, in 1775, the first Provincial Congress of that State "recommended to its people to raise cotton." Georgia is said to have taken the lead in its introduction and cultivation. As showing the period sometimes required to introduce a new product, it may be mentioned that it was not until 1785—sixty five years after its cultivation was suggested—before the first shipment was made, when eight bags were seized by the custom-house officers at Liverpool, it not being credited that even the small quantity of two thousand pounds had been raised in the United States. Seed was introduced in Georgia from Jamaica and Pernambuco in 1786, and the upland, or Georgia variety, was successfully introduced about the same time. As is well known, the cultivation of cotton was insignificant until Whitney invented the cotton gin, when the value of the crop in the United States increased in ten years from about $150,000 to at least $8,000,000.

"The production of sea-island cotton has, in Mississippi, been confined to a very few plantations on the coast. The area suited to its growth is very limited, and, while it bears a much better price than the ordinary cotton, its production in Mississippi has never assumed much importance.

"Many accidental and excellent varieties of cotton have been introduced, and have been preserved and further improved by a careful and judicious selection of seed in the field. At the same time many worthless and spurious kinds have been palmed off on the planters, bearing, usually, high-sounding names, which enjoyed a brief and fictitious reputation.

,,The long-established method of cotton cultivation is too well known require any detailed description here. It usually takes from six to eight furrows to get the land prepared and the seed planted, and four plowings and two or three hoeings to get the crop in condition to "lay

by." A thorough and proper preparation would require a dozen or more furrows to get the land in the desired condition for the seed.

"Cotton-picking, like type-setting, is still performed by the fingers, no invention yet having been introduced to do the work in a satisfactory manner. Should one be constructed to meet the requirements it would be a great saving to farmers, and very materially enhance the profit of production, as fully one third of the cost of making cotton may be charged to the gathering. It is worthy of note, however, that a hand can pick more cotton in a day now than formerly. Many years ago fifty pounds a day was considered good work; now two hundred pounds can easily be picked, while there are a few persons who gather three and four hundred pounds a day.

"In an average of ten years, in which observations have been recorded in this State, the first cotton blooms made their appearance about the first of June, and the plant was killed by frost about the first of November.

"Prof. E. W. Hilgard, in his cotton returns to the United States Census, has this to say about the cotton production in Mississippi:

'Mississippi stands first in total production, while sixth in population, among the cotton States. (See table from United States Census.) At first blush, in view of the large area and great fertility of the Mississippi and Yazoo River bottoms, within the limits of the State, the inference would be that the high position of the State's production is due to these fertile bottom lands. But a detailed discussion of the areas of production shows that a little over one-fourth (27 per cent.) of the cotton product of the State comes from the Mississippi and Yazoo River bottoms, while over one-half of the whole is produced in what might be termed first class uplands, viz, the table land-belt bordering the Mississippi bluffs, the yellow-loam region, and the two prairie belts.

'The remaining one-fourth is grown scatteringly over the sandy uplands, bearing more or less of the long and short leaf pine that form nearly one half the area of the State.

'It thus appears that the high production of Mississippi is due to the fact that quite one-half of its territory is occupied by soils of exceptional fertility, coupled with circumstances that cotton culture is the one pursuit to which the population devotes itself.'

"Mississippi increased its cotton product more than 70 per cent., or 398,173 bales, from 1870 to 1880. This great increase in ten years shows the capabilities of the State for cotton production. The value of the total crop in the census year was more than $43,000,000, or nearly $40 for each unit of population. The total number of acres in cotton at the same time was 2,093,330; close on to one-half of the entire improved land in the State. The total product was 936,111 bales, of which 328,368 bales were the product of white labor. The average yield per acre throughout the State, as mentioned elsewhere, was 0.46 of a bale, or 190 pounds of lint cotton, being a higher yield than in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and

Tennessee. Issaquena County makes the largest average yield, per acre, of any one county, being 0.88 of a bale. Other river counties follow with an average yield almost as great, while a single acre frequently produces a bale and a half to two bales, without fertilizer.

"It is a question much debated among farmers whether it pays to raise cotton at the low prices which have prevailed for several years. A great many contend that it does not pay, but often these are the very producers most wedded to its culture. It therefore happens that at each planting season there is much talk about decreasing the acreage in cotton, which more frequently ends in an increased acreage than otherwise. One planter will often advise his neighbors to plant less cotton, arguing that it does not pay, and at the same time quietly make arrangements to increase his own acreage, in the vain hope that the annual product will be less and prices higher than usual. Many producers acting on this hope, the result is, of course, increased production and poor prices. If there is really a desire to reduce the production of cotton, it will be best accomplished by the introduction and production of other crops, and the diversification of industries generally throughout the cotton belt. This seems difficult to accomplish at once, and there remains the one practical plan for each individual farmer to adopt, and that is to improve the culture, increase the yield per acre, and by these means lessen the cost of production.

"An effort has been made by the writer to determine, approximately at least, the cost of cotton production. This is well nigh impossible, as so much depends upon the character of the soil, the seasons, the method of cultivation, the price of food, &c. The most that can be done in this respect is to submit the experience of several intelligent farmers in different portions of the State, with their opinion as to the cost of producion.

"Mr. Will E. Collins, resident on Steel's Bayou, Issaquena Co., says:

'I can only estimate the cost of one bale of 450 pounds, the usual yield per acre here. I submit the estimate as made up from my crop-expense account, to-wit:

Basis, one acre; yield, 450 pounds lint:

Preparing land for seed	$2 50
Planting	3 00
First plowing	1 25
Second plowing	1 00
Third plowing	1 00
First chopping	1 50
Second chopping	1 50
Laying by	1 50
Ginning	1 00
Picking	7 50
Hauling	75
Total	$22 50

'Total cost to make 1,400 pounds seed cotton, or 450 pounds lint ready for

market, $22 50, or 5 cents per pound. The cost, of course, differs under different systems of working, the above being the cost to make under the wages system, the only true system in any business. Under the share system the cost would increase fully 2 cents per pound, because the yield per hand would be much less. Of course when the yield even under the wages system is less than 450 pounds lint per acre, the cost would increase in proportion, but the usual yield here being 450 pounds, the estimate is a safe one.'

"This estimate makes a very good showing for the rich alluvial bottoms, where a bale to the acre can be easily made without fertilizing. Let us apply the figures to the entire State and see the result. The average product per acre in Mississippi is, as we have seen, 0.46 of a bale, or 190 pounds of lint cotton. Every item in Mr. Collin's account would be the same for making 190 pounds as it would be for making the 550 pounds, excepting the gathering and ginning, which would reduce the total cost per acre to about $17 95, and make the cost of production about 9.44 cents per pound. The conclusion seems to be irresistible that when the yield falls below half a bale to the acre there can not be much money in making cotton at present prices.

"Mr. W. Bridgforth, of Pickens Station, on the Illinois Central Railroad, gives the following estimate of the cost of making a 450-pound bale of cotton in his section of the State:

'With favorable seasons we produce a bale on from 2 to 3 acres; otherwise it takes from 3 to 5 acres. It costs at least 6 cents per pound to produce cotton with us, and this does not include loss, wear and tear of tools and implements nor does it include the land rent, which is from $2 to $5 per acre; hence I think the total cost will be at least 7 cents per pound, or $31 50 per bale of 450 pounds.'

[This last estimate is a fair one for the cotton production of the sandy lands of Lauderdale County.]

MISSISSIPPI AS A GRASS AND STOCK COUNTRY.

"These subjects are so nearly related that they are best considered together. There can be no successful and profitable industry in stock raising unless there is ample pasturage the greater part of the year.

"Good pasturage, an abundance of water, short, mild winters, and accessible markets, are the advantages Mississippi possesses for stock raising.

"The farmers of the State have long waged an energetic warfare against grass, which they considered their most troublesome foe; they are now beginning to look upon this growth as their strongest ally, and with a new and proper appreciation of the immense value of this crop to the agricultural interests of the State. The warfare against "General Green," to use a popular plantation expression, of course necessarily continues in the cultivation of crops, but many are finding by experience that the profits on grass and stock often exceed those on the

crops, and the disposition to engage in this new departure as a matter of business has increased greatly in the past few years in all sections of the State.

"The question of ascertaining the grasses best suited to the soil and climate of the State has been made the object of many experiments, much thought and attention by the most progressive farmers and stock breeders of the State.

"Of late years, since the exclusive culture of cotton has by repeated disastrous experiments proven unwise and unprofitable, the interest in grass and stock has assumed great importance. Probably no other subject has for years enlisted the attention of intelligent farmers and landholders so generally; and this awakening interest is destined to grow and widen until Mississippi takes its proper place among the grass and stock producing States. It is a subject of vital importance, no less on account of its effect in the amelioration and restoration of exhausted lands than the certain and direct profits to be obtained therefrom.

"The grasses of the State which are commonly referred to as natural, and pasture grasses, which grow spontaneously, with little or no care and attention, consitute a never-failing and exhaustless mine of wealth, which, when properly worked, will afford a new and valuable source of revenue. Of this class the well-known Bermuda (*Cynodon dactylon*) is considered the most valuable and is entitled to the first place, but its precedence is being energetically contested by a comparatively new and powerful rival, the Japan clover, or *Lespedeza striata*. The Bermuda, while an introduced grass, like the Japan clover, is now so well established that it may be very properly considered as a native.

"In a valuable little work on grasses, Dr. D. L. Phares, of the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, says of Bermuda:

'As a permanent pasture grass I know of no other that I consider so valuable as this, after having transplanted it from near the mouth of Red River to my present residence thirty-five years ago, and having studied it on hundreds of other farms, commons, and levees for a longer period. As hay this grass has been cured and held in high esteen by many farmers in Mississippi for more than forty years. The late Mr. Thomas Affleck, of Texas, for many years a well-known planter in Mississippi, with characteristic Scotch thrift, promptly recognized the value of this grass, largely profited by it, and, as long as he lived, by mouth and pen inculcated its great worth for pasture and hay, himself making five tons of the latter to the acre. Dr. Ravelel, by the aid of nitrate of soda, obtained at the rate of ten tons to the acre on a lot near Charleston, S. C. Many other examples could be given as to the quantity of hay cut from this grass, and innumerable testimonials as to its nutritive value. On good soil it covers the ground densely several inches deep with its prostrate stems and dense leafage, which are always moist, even in dry weather.'

'This grass is a rapid and valuable fertilizer, and is of great value in holding earthworks and levees of sand and loose soil against floods of water, and in preventing lands from washing. It can be successfully propagated only by transplanting the roots and stems, but when once started spreads rapidly. It thrives best when stock keeps it well trodden, and should be mowed from three to four times every summer for hay.'

Mr. William M. Robertson, of Claiborne County, writes of Bermuda:

'I cut 60 acres of Bermuda grass and sold therefrom the surplus hay, amounting (as shown by my books) to 275 tons of fine hay, and left the best cutting of the season uncut on the meadow. It was given up by all who saw the hay to be the best they ever saw. I had from 25 to 30 head of stock on the meadow all the time I was mowing; they did not appear to hurt it at all. Bermuda grass is the best grazing for stock in my experience with grass, and horses and mules supplied with it need but little corn to do good work.'

"The Japan clover (*Lespedeza striata*) exists almost everywhere throughout the State, in shade or sunshine, on poor lands and rich, in red clay and sandy gullies, and on soil that will not produce anything else. It spreads with marvelous rapidity, exterminating in its course even broom sedge and Bermuda grass. How and whence it came are questions that have not yet been satisfactorily explained. It is supposed to have come from Japan, but in what manner it got a start in the Southern country is not known. It was first noticed in Hinds County about 1878, but several years earlier in other portions of the State, and it may be said that for the last fifteen years it has been rapidly spreading in various sections. It grows well in shade, seems not to be affected by either excessive rain or drought; indeed, it appears to grow regardless of the seasons. It affords fine grazing; as a hay for winter feed many farmers consider it incomparable, while it promises to be an important factor in the restoration of exhausted lands, arresting washes and fertilizing the soil, comparing in this latter respect, it is said, very favorably with red clover. An intelligent stock-raiser states that he has no trouble in curing the hay, and that in winter stock will leave all other food for it.

Dr. Phares says of *Lespedeza*:

'Stock do not relish this plant at first sight, but tasting a few times, they become very fond of it for grazing and hay. In many places they abandon all the natural pasturage in March, April, or May, and confine themselves to this till frost kills it down. By frequent grazing or mowing it is kept in a growing, tender, palatable condition. Cattle fatten on it and produce superior milk, butter, and beef. And this is just what should be expected when we consider that the justly esteemed clover contains 16 per cent. of albuminoids and 41 per cent. of carbohydrates, while *Lespedeza* contains nealy as much albuminoids and 56.79 per cent. of carbohydrates.'

"The grass popularly called "broom sedge" (*Andropogon*), when burned off produces in the spring a new crop of tender, nutritious herbage, which stock eat with much relish. It is not long tender

when not well grazed, and then affords only a brief pasturage. When cut before it becomes tough it makes a very fine hay.

"A very and justly popular grass for summer and fall grazing, and one of the most widely diffused, is the well-known crab (*Panicum sanguinale*). It has been considered one of the worst enemies of the cotton-planter, but is a great boon to grass and stock-raisers. Dr. Phares says he has seen a crop (many of them) of this grass harvested worth more than the corn that could be produced on the same ground, and corn and cotton fields of a wet season so overrun with this grass that in May, June, July, or August, ten day's work with mowers and horse rakes would secure in choice hay two to ten fold more value than many month's labor with teams and machinery and heavy expenses could obtain from the cotton and corn. This grass makes an excellent hay of which live stock are very fond, preferring it to the best Northern hay. Crab grass is excellent for summer pasturage also, and with many bad managers it comes as a godsend to eke out a short corn supply for work animals, saving their lives from May to August, and thus saving the growing crop.

"The above are the more important of what are termed native pasture grasses. There are a great many other kinds, some quite valuable, but a detailed catalogue of them cannot be attempted here. Dr. Charles Mohr, of Mobile, states that he has himself collected in South and Middle Alabama one hundred and thirty-two species, belonging to fifty-three genera of native grasses. No doubt the list in Mississippi would be quite as large. Many of the native grasses produce astonishing results from cultivation.

"Almost all of the cultivated grasses and clovers have done well in Mississippi with proper care and attention. There have been failures in some instances, it is true, but they have generally resulted from careless and improper preparation of the soil at planting. The following article on the feed-stuffs of Mississippi, prepared for this report by Prof. John A. Myers, State chemist, and professor of chemistry in the Agricultural and Mechanical College, is full of interest:

'Although during the late civil war Mississippi swarmed with stock (cattle and hogs), and was one of the chief granaries from which some of the armies drew their supplies, it is not unfrequently stated that Mississippi is unsuited for the growing of stock. It is very strange that within twenty years after the State has been known to be capable of supporting such vast herds of stock the impression should prevail that stock cannot be grown. It can only be explained by taking into the account that just after the close of the war the price of cotton ran so high that it dazed the farming community so completely that they parted with all of their stock and went to raising cotton. We venture the assertion, however, that there is scarcely

a State in the Union that has superior natural facilities for this pursuit than Mississippi.'

'The question is often asked, is there any forage in Mississippi for cattle? We answer, yes, abundance of it; and if the farmers would only let the grasses grow instead of trying to kill them, Mississippi would in a few years become one of the most important grazing States in the Union. In spite of their efforts, however, the grasses are gradually gaining ground; and many of them are now so perfectly scattered that the land will rapidly become "set" in them when not in actual cultivation. These grasses, while largely different from those familiar to the stock-growers of the North and West, are as nutritious and valuable feed-stuffs as many of the most highly prized grasses of those regions. The variety of grazing is greater than it is farther north, just as vegetation is more luxuriant in warm countries than in cold. Besides this, many of the grasses so highly prized, such as orchard grass, the clovers, timothy, and the millets, do as well here as anywhere else, so far as trials with them have been made. But, without these, we have a number of grasses, such as Bermuda grass, Lespedeza or Japan clover, which grow wherever there is any soil to cling to, when they once get introduced. These afford pasture during the summer, fall, and winter. In the spring there is a variety of grasses which come on rapidly and afford most excellent pasturage. The Johnson grass makes one of the best of hays produced in any country.'

"The experience and opinion of prominent stock-raisers in the State, here appended, are impressive and suggestive.

"Mr. W. B. Montgomery, of Starkville, the largest breeder of Jersey cattle in the State, and one of the largest in the United States, says:

'1. The smaller breeds of improved cattle succeed best here. It is more a question of agricultural development than of climate. The larger breeds, for their highest development, require rich and abundant feed. There is no climate bar, only one of rich and nutritive grasses.

2. I know of no serious obstacle in the way of improved stock-farming. I know of no failure where stock-farming is intelligently pursued. The mildness of our climate constitutes a great advantage.

3. I have succeeded well with all the cultivated grasses, which I have tested, excepting timothy only. Our cultivated grasses will not bear, however, close grazing without injury during long protracted droughts in summer and early fall.

4. Clover and blue-grass do best on a stiff lime soil, red top or Herd's grow on low damp lands.'

"Mr. Mat Mahorner, of Macon, says:

'My experience with improved cattle is very limited, except Jerseys, which I consider preferable for good milk and butter. I believe the Devon to be an excellent general-purpose animal, making excellent oxen, good beef, and in many instances fair milkers. The larger breeds will do well where the pasturage is rich enough and proper attention is given. I cannot see any reason why improved stock-farming cannot be made as profitable on cheap lands, with mild winters, as it is where lands are worth from $100 to $500 per acre, and with winters from five to seven months. I fear the desire to become rich in a short time, which many expect to accomplish by raising cotton, is the greatest difficulty in the way in this State. It has been my pleasure to visit herds in the New England States this summer that are considered profitable on lands valued as high as $500 per acre.'

"Mr. M. L. Jenkins, Meridian:

'I know of no difficulties in the way of successful stock-farming in Mississippi. Of the improved breeds, Jersey cattle are the best for butter and milk, and Holsteins for milk and beef.'

"Dr. W. E. Oates, Warren County:

'After several years' experience in breeding and raising thoroughbred Jersey cattle, Southdown sheep, Berkshire and Poland-China swine, I do not hesitate to say that Warren County, Mississippi, is equal, if not superior, in some respects, to the famous blue-grass region of Kentucky. Clovers luxuriate in our soil; the Bermuda grass covers nearly all our hills and

valleys, and it will pasture acre for acre more stock in summer than the blue-grass lands of Kentucky; its power to resist drought is greater, and analysis places it, pound for pound, in value with the blue-grass. On our meadow land as much as 3½ tons per acre have been cut of very superior hay. My herd of Jersey cattle, yet quite young, is as promising as can be found in the United States—rather a broad assertion, but this is the opinion of good judges. The butter test I have made bear me out in the assertion. (Handbook of Mississippi, p. 28.)

SHEEP RAISING.

"The statistician of the Department of Agriculture estimated the number of sheep in Mississippi, on the 1st of January, 1882, as 290,571, valued at $421,328, at an average price of $1.45 per head. In 1850 the number of sheep in Mississippi, was 304,929; in 1860, 352,632; in 1870, 232,732 and in 1880, 287,694. The number of pounds of wool produced in 1850 was 559,619; in 1860, 665,959; in 1870, 288,285, and in 1880, 734,643. The production of wool increased in the last decade to the large extent of 446,358 pounds. It therefore appears that, although the number of sheep has not yet reached the ante-bellum figures, the production of wool is now the highest in the State's history. This is best accounted for by the fact that sheep are now more extensively raised for wool than for home consumption or market, owing to the increase in the home consumption of the fibre by woolen mills recently established in the State. This is but another evidence of the good results which flow from the establishment of manufactures, which create a ready local demand for the raw product to be manufactured. The production of wool will steadily increase with the establishment of new mills; improved breeds will be produced, more time and attention will be devoted to the industry, and better safeguards will be erected around it. The State is admirably adapted to successful sheep raising, and it only needs the establishment of woolen mills and the vigorous enforcement of friendly legislation to stimulate the industry until it assumes proportions commensurate with the favorable natural conditions which exist. As illustrating what may be done by raising sheep in this State, the following from the Greenville Times is of interest:

'A cotton-planter of our acquaintance, in the lower part of this (Washington) county, has run a sort of side-show with sheep, with the following results:

Dr.

Eighty-six sheep, cost $4 each	$344 00
First shearing of same	7 60
Second shearing of same	4 15
Shearing 58 lambs	2 90
Of stock 3 died	12 00
Total cost	$370 65

Cr.

By first clip (April)	$55 77
By second clip (fall)	60 00
By clip of lambs	32 94
By increase, 29 ewes	116 00
By increase, 31 bucks	93 00
Total yield	$357 71

'This is within $12.94 of 100 per cent, realized on the investment. This flock of sheep had the run of a Bermuda grass common and front yard.'

"The pine hills and level lands of Southern Mississippi are especi-

ally well adapted to sheep raising, and it is in this part of the State that the industry has attracted the most attention. Perry County at the last census had 15,764 sheep, and is entitled to the first place in this respect. Marion County comes next, with 14,981 sheep, and then Wayne County, with 12,338 head, while Greene and Harrison Counties have each more than 10,000 head. The remainder are quite evenly distributed throughout the State.

"Mr. J. A. Wetherbee writes that the industry is carried on quite extensively in the western and southern portions of Wayne County, and very successfully. He says that along the line of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and in the eastern portion of the county, there are very few sheep, owing to the number of dogs running at large, and suggests that if all persons having dogs were required to keep them confined, the business would be enlarged and become more profitable. The sheep are common stock.

"Mr. J. T. Buckworth, of Williamsburg, says that there is little or no special attention paid to sheep raising in Covington County; that this part of the State possesses many advantages for sheep raising, including a fine summer range, and plenty of water, but the great trouble is the large number of dogs. He complains that present local and general legislation against this evil is not properly enforced. He considers the Southdown the best breed for that section.

"Mr. T. H. Smith, of Lawrence County, says:

'There is generally very little attention paid to sheep in this county. They make their own living, but little feed being given them, and yet they seem to do moderately well. I know of no improved breeds here, only the common stock. I think the pine hills here would make fine sheep-walks, as sheep live through the winter here with little or no feed. The enforcement of a strict dog law would be a great advantage.'

"Mr. W. B. Montgomery thinks the smaller breeds of sheep, the Merino and Southdown, best adapted to the State, for the reasons he has given elsewhere for preferring the smaller breeds of cattle.

"Mr. Mat Mahorner prefers the Southdown for mutton and early lambs and the grade Merino for wool.

"The foregoing facts give an idea of sheep raising in Mississippi. There seems to be nothing except dogs in the way of profitable sheep raising in the State. It has been suggested that a dog tax would greatly reduce the number of worthless dogs in the State. The present statute for the protection of wool-growers provides that any dog found prowling and straying alone and from the premises of the owner, and found either chasing or killing sheep, shall be deemed and held to be a sheep-killing dog, and any person so finding such dogs may kill them, and shall not be held liable to the owner for so doing. Also that the owner of any dog found chasing or killing sheep, who, after notice of the fact, shall fail to kill, or refuse to allow killed, such a dog so found chasing or killing sheep, shall be held liable for three times the amount of all losses or damages occasioned by

such dog chasing or killing sheep, to be recovered before any court of competent jurisdiction.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION.

"As indicating the growth of diversified industries in the State, it may be mentioned that a very profitable and handsome business has been built up in places adjacent to the railroad lines in the production and shipment of fruits and vegetables to the larger cities. This new industry has been steadily growing for a number of years, until it now assumes proportions reaching into the thousands at a number of points in Central and Southern Mississippi along the line of the Illinois Central railroad. The acreage in fruits and vegetables is constantly being increased, and the industry, inaugurated by a few progressive minds, bids fair to spread and widen until it embraces all points accessible to markets, thereby becoming an important factor in the State's production. The success which has attended the efforts of those who have engaged in the business shows what may be accomplished when it increases sufficiently to obtain concessions from railroads in the matter of rates, rapid transportation, and improved methods of handling. New markets will be opened up, a healthy rivalry will be established to produce the best results, and there will be a mutuality of interests prompting organization and co-operation in all things tending to promote and advance the industry. A direct result, and one already foreshadowed in the State, of the growth of the business and increased production will be the establishment of canneries to utilize such stock as may be on hand at seasons when the markets are depressed to such an extent that it is no longer profitable to make shipments. This sometimes happens late in the season.

"In the central and southern portions of the State fruit and vegetable production as a business has been found so profitable as to obtain a firm footing within the past few years. This part of the State possesses many advantages for successful fruit and vegetable growing, and is attracting the attention of market gardners of the North and West. The winters are mild and short, and successive crops of a large variety of vegetables can be raised during the year with outdoor culture. It is claimed that in the extreme southern portions of the State, with reasonable attention, green peas, lettuce, radishes, and a number of other vegetables can be raised every month in the year. The varieties of fruit which grow here successfully include species grown in more northern latitudes, as well as those which nearly approach the tropics.

"The soil in South Mississippi is a sandy loam, while higher up it contains a great deal of lime, conditions considered favorable to profitable fruit and vegetable growing. The fig-tree and the vine bring the most satisfactory results, with but slight attention. In the south-

ern part of the State the fig, which bears regularly ever year, matures its first crop in May and the second and more abundant crop in June and July. It is of long life, and neither tree nor fruit is subject to disease. The dry season, which usually occurs about the time of the maturity of the fig, renders the preserving and drying of it a labor of easy accomplishment. Peaches, pears, and apples do well, but difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a variety of the latter which will keep well during the winter. Oranges are quite extensively and successfully grown on the coast, and are considered equal in flavor to the Florida oranges. The Scuppernong grape is largely grown on the coast, and to a less extent throughout the State. From it excellent wines are manufactured. The Concord, Catawba, and Martha grapes have found most favor. The vines are usually planted in February, and most of the varieties mature in June and July. Blackberries and dewberries are indigenous throughout the State, and grow luxuriantly in fields and woodlands. On fertile lands these fruits compare favorably, both in size and flavor, with the cultivated berries, and are no doubt susceptible of great improvement by cultivation.

"Strawberries have attracted the most attention and are considered the safest and most profitable crop. Plants put out in June yield a full crop the following spring, when kept clear of grass and weeds and well cultivated in the fall. The Wilson, Albany, Imperial, and Monarch of the West are the most approved varieties. They are easily cultivated, and boys and girls are generally employed to gather the crop. The first shipments from this State are usually made about the 15th of March in each year to Chicago, Ill. There are more than three hundred acres in strawberries near Mandison Station, Madison County. Dr. Hayden McKay has 130 acres, and Dr. John McKay 100 acres in strawberries. These progressive gentlemen have been making experiments with the Tiffany refrigerator car, which, if successful, will very largely reduce the cost of transportation as now made through the express company.

"The State is also rich in wild fruits, as will appear by the following list:

"APPLE (*Pyrus*).—*Pyrus coronaria*—crab apple; *P. angustifolia*—crab apple, good for preserves and apple sauce.

"BLACKBERRY.—*Rubus villosus*—high blackberry; *R. cuneifolicis*—sand blackberry.

"CURRANT.—*Ribes floridum*—wild black currant; *R. tenuifolium*—wild gooseberry.

"DEWBERRY.—*R. canadensis*—northern dewberry; *R. trivialis*—southern dewberry.

"DEERBERRY.—*Vaccinium corymboscum*—swamp blueberry; *V. arboreum*—fackleberry.

"ELDER.—*Sambucus canadensis.* Berries make a good wine.

"GRAPE.—(*Vitis*)—*Vitis bipinnata*; *V. incisa; V. indivisa; V. labrusca*—northern fox grape; *V. æstivalis*—summer grape; *V. cordifolia*—frost grape; *V. vulpina*—muscadine.

"HUCKLEBERRY.—*Gaylussacia resinosa*—black huckleberry; *G. frondosa*—blue dangle—high blueberry; *G. domosa.*

"MULBERRY (*Morus*).—*Morus rubra.* Fruit deep red, much like a blackberry in appearance—juicy and sweet.

"PAPAW.—(*Asimina triloba*). Fruit very sweet and edible, and much improved by cultivation; grows in well-shaded alluvial lands; fibrous bark valuable.

"PERSIMMON (*Diospyrus*).—*Diospyrus virginiana.* Fruit palatable after frost, and it is believed would be greatly improved by cultivation and made to rival the celebrated *Diospyrus Kaki*, or Japan persimmon.

"PLUM (*Prunus*).—*Prunus Americana*—wild plum; P. *chicasa*—Chickasaw plum; *P. pumila*—dwarf cherry; *P. serotina*—wild black cherry.

"SLOE.—*Viburnum prunifolium*—black haw.

FORESTS AND FOREST TREES OF MISSISSIPPI.

"The arboreal flora of Mississippi is remarkable for the dense growth of its forest trees, the height and size of timber trees, their great variety; for the prevalence of species common only to the Gulf region; for the extensive growth of hard woods, their kind and value, and above all, for the great belts of pine forests. The forests of the State constitute a mine of untold wealth, which has as yet attracted comparatively little attention from its citizens. While the States of the North and West have been planting forests, and while the General Government bestows a liberal bounty for the planting of forest trees upon the public domain, Mississippi has done little to preserve its bountiful supply of valuable woods, and nothing whatever to replete with a new growth the forests alreay destroyed.

"When first visited by white men the State was an unbroken forest, save limited stretches of prairie, with gigantic trees, undergrowth, wild flowers, cane, and wild grape-vines in unlimited extent. Since its settlement the woodman's ax has destroyed many a fine forest, a result often rendered necessary by the demands of agriculture, but which, it must be admitted, did not always stop with this necessity, but was continued with little care or thought of the value of forests. The destruction of forests still necessarily continues to a certain extent, but there is fortunately a growing appreciation of their value and a public sentiment which will do much to preserve them for present and future generations. The illiberal policy of rapidly exhausting the cleared lands by a reckless and improvident system of agri-

culture and abandoning them for new clearings, to be in turn rapidly exhausted, is beginning to be understood and appreciated. The restoration of exhausted lands now going on will do much to save the forests from further depletion.

"The statistics of wood and timber consumption in the United States are full of meaning, and suggest what is now generally admitted, that soon the country must look to the South for its principal supply of useful and ornamental woods. At a recent session of the American Forestry Congress the Commissioner of Agriculture, Hon. George B. Loring, also president of the Congress, called public attention to this fact. He said:

'In the near future the pine forests of the Gulf States will have to be depended upon for lumber. Much remained to be done for the care of forests, much timber being wasted by want of care in burning and cutting. The public mind should be aroused to the importance of the subject.'

"The immense importance, therefore, not only to the State but to the country at large, of the forests of pine and hard woods, which abound in almost every section of Mississippi, ought to be fully appreciated. This valuable bounty of nature should receive the protecting care of legislation, State and National, the support of public sentiment, and the guardianship of every citizen. Self-interest, it seems, would be sufficient to insure the protection of individual forests and the National and State Governments should enforce a like protection upon their respective lands. Every year the value of the forests will increase, and there should be a corresponding increase in a sentiment favorable to their protection. Not only should friendly legislation protect the forests as far as possible, but it should also encourage the planting upon the State lands when sold, of pecan, white oak, walnut, chestnut, and other useful trees. It is none too early to begin this work, and if begun at once and diligently prosecuted the advantages may be ready to be reaped by the time the present supply of timber is exhausted sufficiently to produce inconvenience. Mississippi has a statute sufficiently stringent, if enforced, for the protection of valuable and ornamental trees and shrubs. The increasing value of such growth should induce owners to insist upon a more rigid enforcement of this timely legislation, and thus promote a more general regard for this class of individual and national wealth than has obtained heretofore.

"Immense acquisitions of valuable pine forests in Southern Mississippi have of late been made by investors from abroad, who understand and appreciate that the trees alone are worth many times the present Government price. As many as seventy large, tall, pine trees have been frequently counted on a single acre of land that the Government is selling at $1.25 per acre. The estimated yield per acre of these fine forests varies from 6,000 to 30,000 feet of lumber. This Long-leaf Pine Region lies south of the Vicksburg and Meridian Railroad,

and extends in Mississippi to the Alabama line on the east, to the Gulf of Mexico and the Louisiana line on the south, and to the bluff formation and Louisiana line on the west. The region of mixed growth adjoins the pine belt on the north, while the bottoms of the State generally, and the Yazoo delta in particular, contain the large deciduous forests. Generally speaking, the sandy lands in the State incline to the different kinds of pine, and the valleys skirting the streams to large, tall, moisture-loving trees. The oaks predominate among the deciduous trees, and are in great variety.

"The statistics of the Census give the following as the pine supply of Mississippi:

Estimated amount of merchantable pine standing May 31, 1880.

LONG-LEAFED PINE. (*pinus australis.*)

STANDING PINE.

	No. of feet. (board-measure)
Standing pine in region west of Pearl River, tributary to the Illinois Central Railroad	6,300,000,000
East of Pearl River	7,600,000,000
Region of mixed growth, exclusive of 200,000 acres injured by the manufacture of turpentine	3,800,000,000
Total	18,200,000,000
Cut for the census year ending May 31, 1880	108,000,000

'In this estimate no account is made of small timber standing on some 2,912,000 acres which have been cut over, and from which the merchantable pine has been practically removed.'

SHORT-LEAFED PINE. (*Pinus mitis.*)

Standing pine in the northeastern belt	1,600,000,000
Standing pine in northern region of mixed growth	5,175,000,000
Total	6,775,000,000
Cut for the census year ending May 31, 1880	7,775,000

"The estimated consumption of wood for domestic purposes in Mississippi amounts to 5,090,758 cords, valued at $7,145,116 per annum. The value of mill products, such as lumber, laths, shingles, staves, &c., per annum, amounts to $1,920,335. These two items will give an idea of the large annual drain upon the forests of the State.

"It is to be regretted that the forest wealth of Mississippi has never been made the object of special study by a competent observer. It is a mine of wealth, which, however, awaits and merits exploration and study.

COTTON AND WOOLEN MANUFACTURING.

"The agricultural prosperity of a State, if not dependent upon the development of manufactures, is greatly promoted and advanced by their success and number. They create a ready, accessible market for the raw material manufactured, and a demand also for other products of the farm for the sustenance of their operatives. When factories abound the planters of the State will have little trouble in dis-

posing of many of their surplus products for which there is at present no market. Upon the article manufactured the producer will save the charges and profits of middlemen and transportation companies, no inconsiderable burdens upon the staple products of the soil. To the extent, therefore, that the products of the State are manufactured within the limits of that State the entire profits in the successive stages are kept within the State, and all callings and trades feel the beneficial effects, but none more so than that of agriculture.

"The press and people of the State are thoroughly alive to the importance of manufactures and the advantages which result to a community from their establishment. Never before in the history of the State has there been manifested such a lively and growing interest in this important subject. The governor of the State, in his inaugural address, called special attention to the importance of manufactures, and the legislature, at its last session, passed a law exempting from taxation for ten years the machinery used for the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods, yarns and fabrics composed of these or other materials, or for the manufacture of agricultural implements and machinery. This sentiment takes practical shape every now and then in the incorporation of a company of home capitalists to embark in cotton or woolen manufacture. And here it may be remarked that there is probably not a county in the State whose citizens could not, by organization and co-operation, establish, without foreign aid, a well-equipped manufactory for the production of the coarser cotton fabrics. It is a common remark that capital is scarce is Mississippi; the truth is, there is a fair proportion of it here, only it is very widely and evenly distributed, and needs co-operation to bring it together for industrial and manufacturing advancement. When the people of the State fully appreciate the vast benefits of combined capital and effort they will not long wait for outside capital to aid them in establishing manufacturing industries. There may not be one or two individuals in a given community able and willing to invest $100,000 in a cotton factory, but two hundred might be found who would invest $500 each, thus making the required amount. These figures are, of course, merely illustrative; the capital need not be so large for a beginning, and consequently the individual subscriptions would be less.

"The present healthy sentiment in favor of manufactures promises well for the future, and it is a reasonable assumption that Mississippi, occupying a position among the first of the cotton-producing States, will, in the near future, take high rank in the manufacture of her favorite and staple product. A well-settled conviction exists throughout the country that the coarser fabrics, at least, should be manufactured close by the fields where the raw material is produced. "Bring the mills to the cotton" is now one of the popular ideas of the day which is gradually assuming practical realization. It is very generally

admitted that the mills established in the cotton belt will soon have the market under control for the coarser grades of cotton goods. Those who have engaged in cotton manufacturing in this State have wisely concluded to devote themselves to this class of goods for the present. This is the proper and necessary beginning; what possibilities the future will develop is left to conjecture.

"There is little fear of overproduction of cotton goods, however much manufactures may multiply in the South. Mr. Edward Atkinson, of Boston, an eminent authority on this subject, says:

'When it is remembered that a larger portion of the population of the globe is now clothed in cotton fabrics made by hand, and even those who use machine-made fabrics are served as yet with less than half as much cloth as the people of this country average in a year, the future field for industry and commerce in this department may be imagined, but cannot be proved by statistics, or by any deductions from census data.'

"The requirements for successful cotton manufacturing abound in Mississippi. The raw material is here in first hands; there is an abundance of cheap fuel; the cost of living is less than in the large manufacturing centers; the hours of labor are longer; there is an abundance of cheap water-power, when it is preferred to steam; all capital invested is exempt from taxation for ten years; a home market exists for a part of the products, and finally there are rail and water transportation facilities from many sections of the State to the great centers of trade and commerce. These are the inducements held out to foreign investors, and the further important fact that manufactures in Mississippi, built and operated with home capital and home labor, have prospered to a gratifying extent, and have paid handsome interests on the investments. Those who are inclined to doubt that manufacturing may be made to pay well in Mississippi have only to notice the results already accomplished.

"Thirty-five years ago, at the present site of Bankston, Choctaw County, Col. J. M. Wesson put in motion the first spindle and spun the first yarn that was ever made by steam or water-power in Mississippi. This pioneer in manufacturing was president of a company organized at Columbus, Ga., and the enterprise established at the interior site, Bankston, proved very profitable until destroyed during the war.

"The extent of the mechanical and manufacturing interests of Mississippi, at the last census, is exhibited by the following statements:

Description.	Number of establishments.	Capital.	Average number of employes.	Value of products.
All industries	1,479	$4,727,600	5,827	$7,518,300
Cotton goods	9	1,130,640	722	691,415
Flouring and grist mill products	525	889,950	848	1,762,523
Lumber, sawed	295	922,595	1,170	1,920,335
Oil, cotton-seed and cake	8	450,000	50[illegible]	560,363
Woolen goods	8	331,500	218	299,605
All other industries	634	1,002,915	2,360	2,284,006

"The figures above quoted have been very materially increased

since the census was taken by the establishment of new industries and the enlargement of old ones.

WHAT SOME MISSISSIPPI MILLS ARE DOING.

"A conspicuous example of what may be done in manufacturing in this State is offered by the Mississippi Mills, located at Wesson, Copiah County, on the Illinois Central Railroad, 138 miles from New Orleans. These mills commenced operations under their present organization in 1873. The site selected was, previous to the establishment of the mills, almost an unbroken pine forest. To-day Wesson is a beautiful, prosperous manufacturing village, of which there should be many counterparts in Mississippi, containing free schools and churches and about 2,800 inhabitants, more or less dependent upon the prosperity of the mills. Mr. E. Richardson, the president, and an extensive cotton-planter, and Mr. William Oliver, the secretary and treasurer, are both Mississippians, and the 900 operatives are mostly from the surrounding country.

"At the Centennial in 1876 these mills received the highest award of merit, and medal for their celebrated "Centennial cassimeres," and at the Atlanta Exposition they again received the highest award—diploma and gold medal—for the superiority of their goods. Every year since the present organization the mills have prospered and made money, but the management have steadily invested the earnings in buildings and machinery. Within the past six months very near $100,000 have been thus invested. There are 500 looms and 10,000 spindles in operation, and also thirteen sets of woolen machinery, and all the appurtenances of a first-class woolen mill. A variety of goods are manufactured, such as cotton checks, plaids, ginghams, cottonades, brown sheetings, shirtings, osnaburgs, drillings, tickings, jeans, cassimeres, yarns, threads, &c. The mills consume about 4,000 bales of cotton and 900,000 pounds of wool per annum. Wood fuel is used, of which there is a convenient and abundant supply. As to the demands for the products of the mill, the secretary says:

'We are generally overworked on all our fabrics, and have orders now largely in excess of our production of woolen goods, and on many of our cotton goods. Our trade extends from New York to San Francisco, but most in the Western States, Texas, and the Southern States.'

LAUDERDALE COUNTY,

———:o:———

One of the Best in the State.

———:o:———

The lands of Lauderdale County are much above the average in productiveness of those counties in East Mississippi lying south of the Noxubee River. Cotton, corn, wheat, rice, oats, barley, rye and sugar cane, grow to perfection in this county when properly cultivated. We have as many successful farmers in this county "who live at home and stay at the same place," as any portion of the State. Mr. S. M. Bailey has made a success of cotton, corn, hogs and cattle.

Another farmer, Mr. H. F. Alexander, while looking well at cotton, corn, hogs, &c., has also made a success of raising sugar cane. He (A.) has planted three acres in cane; after saving enough cane for planting the same amouut of land, made 1040 gals. of the best molasses at a cost of planting, cultivating and grinding, of $134. Mr. Alexander states to the writer that he has never failed to find ready sale for all the molasses at 50 cents per gallon. The fine displays made yearly by Mr. John Stinson, at the Mississippi State Fairs, held here, are a complete showing up as to the various productions of our county. Our average crops of corn are from 20 to 30 bushels per acre with no fertilizers.

Mr. John K. Mosby rarely ever falls under 50 bushels of corn per acre. Of rice, which can be raised almost all over the county, the crop is from 30 to 60 bushels per acre, according to location. This crop (rice) never proves a failure. The want of a good and cheap portable rice mill, that will hull and clean rice properly, will give an impetus to its culture, and beyond all doubt prove a bonanza to the inventor. We feel an especial interest in such an invention, and would call attention to inventors in whose hands this pamphlet may reach, that a successful machine for hulling and cleaning rice would make a revolution as decided as the "Famous Cotton Picking Machine," and the reward to the inventor would be as great.

Great success has attended the oat crop in this county. The red oats are the variety sown here. The crop is a sure one and often yields as high as 50 bushels per acre, when sown on the best lands.

Rye and barley do well here, but is planted mostly for grazing. We have a great variety of natural grasses. [See pages 12-16.]

Wheat does well in this county and is as sure a crop as any other planted. The writer has long been engaged in milling, and more than twenty-five years in East Mississippi. From his own observations, and from enquiries made of many farmers, he is lead to believe that in almost every case where a failure has occurred in wheat culture it may be traced to some or all of the following causes: First.—Cotton first, last and all the time in the way. Second—Land not properly prepared. Third—Planting in December when seed ought to be in the ground early in October. (Cotton in the way at that time.) Fourth—Planting wheat year after year on the same land with little or no fertilizer and never improving the seed. We had charge of government (Confederate) mills in this section during the late war, and had good opportunities to learn something of wheat cultivation, and know that one army obtained nearly all their supplies in the way of flour from this section. Cotton was not "King" then, it had no sway, and this section did show marked adaptability for wheat and all the rest of the small grain.

Nearly all the fruits and grapes belonging to a more northern latitude, our county will produce to perfection, besides many varieties belonging here.

In the forests we have a full share of different woods belonging to other sections of the State and offering manufacturers great inducements. All over the county we have good water and the best of health and epidemics are unknown.

THE CITY OF MERIDIAN.

ONE OF THE GREATEST RAILROAD CENTERS OF THE SOUTHWEST.

ITS RAPID GROWTH AND PROSPERITY.

ITS ADVANTAGES FOR ALL MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES.

Meridian, the county seat of Lauderdale County, is located near the eastern border of the State, in a most salubrious region, in the midst of the pine woods of East Mississippi, and is now estimated to have a population of 10,000. It has nearly doubled its population in the last three years, and at no time in its history have more new buildings been erected than in the last twelve months. At a convenient distance, and connected by rail with the iron mines and coal fields of Alabama, and surrounded by an inexhaustible supply of the best pine, oak, ash, hickory, cypress, sweet gum and other valuable timbers, there is no more inviting locality for manufactures in the United States. No place in the South is more favorably situated for cotton factories, or the maufacture of furniture, wagons, agricultural implements, etc., than Meridian, and that such enterprises here would pay handsomely, admits of no doubt. Immigrants coming to this section will receive a hearty welcome. We make the following quotation to illustrate this, from the "Handkook of the State of Mississippi," issued by Maj. E. G. Wall, Commissioner of Agriculture and Immigration, copies of which may be obtained on application to Maj. Wall, at Jackson, Miss.:

"We need population to develop our State. We will give settlers a hearty welcome, and extend to them full and equal protection. We want people of kindred races, that we may be homogeneous; we are immigrants or the decendants of immigrants in our favored country. We do not want the criminals and paupers of other States and countries, but to industrious and reliable immigrants we offer good and cheap homes—invite them to locate, and become the owners of their lands in fee simple forever; we want them to become citizens,

and have with us equal political privileges and responsibilities. We want persons skilled in a great variety of agricultural, horticultural and manufacturing pursuits, in fact, in all the industries of life. We want, especially, capital to develop our unbounded resources. We want settlers who will bring along with them means and energy, to enter into business for themselves, to buy our cheap lands, become permanent residents, and to help build up the prosperity of our State. We want men who are willing to rely on their own energy and exertions and means, to make for themselves comfortable and beautiful homes. To such we say come, and if you have good staying qualities, and do not expect to gather a fortune in a year or two from cotton plants, your reward will be sure."

Railroads.

Meridian is on the Mobile & Ohio Railroad, 135 miles north of Mobile, and 194 miles south of Corinth. It is at the junction of the Vicksburg & Meridian, East Tennessees & Virginia, Alabama Great Southern, and New Orleans & Northeastern. It is 140 miles east of Vicksburg, 105 miles west of Selma, and 195 miles north of New Orleans. Twelve passenger trains and over thirty freight trains arrive at and leave Meridian daily. Three other railroads are in contemplation, and will be built: one to the Warrior coal fields in Alabama, one to Tuscahoma on the Tombigbee and the other to Grenada on the Illinois Contral Railroad.

Manufactories.

There are now in operation a number of manufacturing enterprises, whose business is yearly increasing, and who find a remunerative sale for all they can make. They are :

MERIDIAN SASH AND BLIND FACTORY.

This company commenced operations fourteen years ago, and is the oldest manufacturing enterprise in the city. Their business for the past year has been larger than any previous year, and with all the hands they could employ they have scarcely been able to fill their numerous orders. They maufacture sash, (glazed at the factory), doors of all kinds, mouldings, brackets, newells, banisters, and every kind of wood work used in building. They also keep on hand dressed lumber in all shades, and almost every kind of builder's materials. While they supply nearly all the sash, doors, blinds, etc., used in the city, this is but a small part of their business, the greater part consisting of orders from different points along the lines of railroads.

They do by far the largest business of the kind in the State, and their prices are, on many articles which they manufacture, cheaper than in Mobile or New Orleans. In quality or style their work is equal to any that can be had in the South or West. Mr. George S.

Covert, who is a member of the company, has charge of the contracting department, and usually has employed thirty and often as many as fifty hands. The wood work of the Opera-house, court-houses at Meridian and Corinth, the Baum Block, the East Mississippi Insane Asylum, and nearly all the other buildings here, have been furnished by the Meridian Sash and Blind Factory. In fact, their work can be found in every part of East Mississippi and West Alabama, and gives satisfaction to the hundreds who use it, both in quality and in price. The factory itself affords constant employment to sixty hands, among whom are a number of skilled workmen.

MERIDIAN OIL MILLS AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

This company was organized in 1876 and has been in successful operation ever since that time—four years ago the machinery was enlarged at an expense of $30,000, and it is now one of the largest and most complete oil mills in the South. With nearly one hundred boxes it will grind from sixty to eighty tons of cotton seed in twenty-four hours, and its employees usually number one hundred. In this way during the crushing season, the company pay out every week several hundred dollars to their employees, for services, the most of which is spent in the city, and adds considerably to the retail trade. The cotton seed meal made by the Oil Mills is an excellent article, very popular wherever used, and as its merits as a fertilizer and for feeding are becoming better known, its local sales are greatly increasing. The company occupies an elegant three-story brick office that has every convenience and comfort for the storage of valuables and the transaction of business, and is an ornament to that part of the city. They have also enlarged their extensive sheds, for the storage of cotton seed, and covered the whole with an iron roof.

SOUTHERN STANDARD PRESS COMPANY.

This company of which Mr. A. J. Hyde is the owner and business manager, was located here in the spring of 1879. At that time Mr. G. W. Soule was President, and Mr. A. J. Hyde, Secretary. Since then, Mr. Soule, who is engaged in perfecting a sugar mill for which he has obtained a patent, disposed of his interest to Mr. Hyde, who is now carrying on the business successfully. The company has been a most valuable accession to the industries of Meridian. In the last four years they have manufactured and sold over 3,000 of their celebrated Southern Standard Presses, that are now in successful operation in almost every county and neighborhood in this and adjoining States.

THE PLANTERS COMPRESS AND WAREHOUSE

at Meridian is one of the largest and best in the South, and will afford every facility for the compressing and storage of cotton. It is a first-class 90-inch cylinder Morse Compress. Was put up by Mr.

L. A. Ragsdale, three years ago, and is now conducted by Mr. J. S. Solomon as lessee. During the past twelve months it has compressed over 65,000 bales of cotton, of this number 60,000 bales were sold in this market; the remainder was shipped via Meridian and compressed here en route.

EAST MISSISSIPPI MILLS.

This cotton factory is now in successful operation under the management of Mr. J. S. Solomon. About sixty hands are employed, and they make a very superior article of sheetings, and also the best yarns in the market. They make a specialty 4-4 sheetings Nos. 8 and 10 yarns, and cotton batting. They consume from 700 to 800 lbs. of cotton daily or about 500 bales yearly. The product of the mills is sold to the merchants of Meridian, though some of it is shipped to northern markets where it finds a ready sale.

MACHINE SHOPS AND FOUNDRIES.

Besides the above, the machine shops of the N. O. & N. E. Rail road have been located at Meridian. Over 500 hands will be employed in these shops, and this alone will add several thousand to the population of the city.

Messrs. Williams & Briggs have a first-class machine shop and foundry, (brick) one of the best in the State. They are building two or three sizes of steam engines and doing much of the repair work done in this section.

Mr. G. W. Soule also has a machine shop and foundry. Work principally jobbing. Mr. Soule is the inventor of the Southern Standard Press, a cotton seed oil press and other inventions.

MERIDIAN FERTILIZER COMPANY.

This is a new enterprise, started in the last 12 months. Both the General Manager, Mr. W. L. Goldsmith, and the Superintendent, Mr. H. J. Pratt, have had large experience as manufacturers of fertilizers. This company have a capital of $50,000, and every member comprising it is a guarantee that they will furnish a fertilizer worth the money asked for it, and give the most profitable return to those who use it, thereby securing for it a permanent place in the esteem of the people.

ROBINSON & CO.

are among the largest manufacturers of brick in the State. They operate two large yards and keep the largest quantities of both machine and hand-made brick for building and other purposes.

ICE FACTORY.

This company has been for the last three years in operation, and finds a ready sale here and along the lines of the different railroads for all the ice they manufacture. This company has ample capital to

enlarge their capacity as their trade increases. Mr. R. A. Fewell is the business manager and Mr. Robert E. White superintendent.

MERIDIAN GAS LIGHT COMPANY

began supplying the city with gas on the 1st of October, 1882. These works were erected and the mains laid at a cost of over $35,000. Within the last two years, such has been the rapid growth of our city, this company has been unable to supply the increased demand made on them, and during the coming season will have to make larger additions to their works. Mr. C. W. Robinson is secretary and treasurer and Mr. John Stafford, manager.

MERIDIAN PHOSPHATE COMPANY.

This company own the richest Phosphate and Marl beds in the South. The supply is inexhaustible. Their benficial effects on the worn out lands of New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia and North and South Carolina are known to every farmer who has kept apace with the progress of this age. This company claim that they can furnish to the farmer a marl for composting at a cost, compared with the results, less than has ever been sold before. They will also have on the market a fertilizer with this marl as a basis which they believe will meet the wants of the farmer, price considered, as few fertilizers have done. This company has had a careful analysis made of these marls by Prof, John A. Myers, Mississippi State Chemist, and append the analysis:

ANALYSIS OF WHITE MARL FROM NEAR COATOPA, ALA.

(Average of five determinations.)

Sand	16.91
Water	1.20
Lime	31.26
Carbonic acid	20.08
Phosphoric acid	4.95
Oxide iron and alluvium	20.75
Volatile and organic matter	3.00
Potash (N. & O.)	.64
Soda (Trace)	.24
Sulphuric acid	1.10
Magnesia	——
Sap	——

This marl is the richest known to me in the State or the United States, and is worth at commercial price at least $6 per ton.

The sample was quite dry, varied considerably in physical character and was thoroughly pulverized and mixed before selecting a sample for analysis.

Respectfully Submitted,

JNO. A. MYERS, State Chemist.

This company will also develop a large bed of fire clay, which lies nearly at the doors of their factory. This fire clay is pronounced by Dr. Little, State Geologist of Mississippi, to be of the most superior quality. Several tests have been made of this clay at the Iron Furnaces of Brimingham, Ala., and Dr. Little's high opinion of it has been fully sustained. This company have ample capital to carry on the business. John F. Wiatt, president, and Col. John T. O'Ferrall secretary and treausurer.

GRIST MILLS.

The mort complete grist mills in the State are located here. The Meridian Mills are owned by J. A. Wetherbee & Son, who, in addition to their milling, are among the largest grain dealers here.

The City Mills are owned by Stevenson & Co., who also deal in machinery. Both of these mills are built of brick in the most substantial style and the machinery first-class in every respect.

As a manufacturing point, few places offer as great inducements as Meridian. Especially is this true of the manufacture of wagons, plows and all other industries in which the woods enter so largely as it does in those manufactures named. We are surrounded by the greatest bodies of lands, covered with white oak, hickory, yellow pine and other valuable timber. The cost of these materials would be nominal when compared with most places, where such manufacturing is carried on. Labor is as cheap and the cost of living as low as any place in the Union. Coal is abundant and cheap and no better railroad connections any where.

We have a Street Railroad which when finished will be four miles in length. Two miles are now operated, and the work on the unfinished portion of the road is being rapidly pushed forward and its completion in the next ninety days is assured. Mr. J. L. Handly is the superintendent, and Capt. R. M. Houston is the secretary.

There is no place in the South where merchants display greater vim and energy and at the same time due caution in their business, as do the merchants of Meridian. There are more large dealers here than any other town in the State. There are thousands of bales of cotton brought here yearly by wagons, and bought by our merchants, who through their liberal dealings and high prices paid for cotton, have added greatly to the growth and present prosperity of Meridian. The stores are all built of brick and some of them would be an ornament to any city.

BANKS.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

This bank began business July 1st, 1883, succeeding the Peoples' Bank. Its capital was $50,000 during its first year. On July 1st 1884, the capital was increased to $100,000, and up to this time its paid up capital and surplus amounts to $105,000, making this bank the strongest in the State.

It does a general banking business and has unsurpassed facilities for collecting throughout this State and West Alabama. The success this bank has met with gives a true idea of the rapid growth of Meridian during the past year. The officers of this bank are: Chas. A. Lyerly, president; W. W. George, vice-president; C. W. Robinson, cashier, and O. J. Waite, assistant cashier.

THE MERIDIAN NATIOUNAL BANK.

The Meridian National Bank began business during the past twelve

months. The subscribers to the stock of this bank are a number of Pennsylvania capitalists and some of the most solid business men of East Mississippi, making this bank an assured success from its start. Its paid up capital is $100,000.

Will transact a general banking business and pay great attention to collections in this section. The officers of this bank are: W. H. Hardy, president; T. Wistar Brown, vice-president, and J. H. Wright cashier.

NEWSPAPER AND JOB PRINTING OFFICES.

We have the Meridian *Mercury* published Daily and Weekly by Horn & Shannon. It has the largest circulation in East Mississippi and West Alabama of any daily published in the State, and is the most influential paper in this section.

The *Farmers' Advocate*, a weekly paper published by R. P. Walker, finds its largest circulation among the farmers, but has a good list among others outside of them.

Rev. A. Gressett edits the *Southern Baptist*, a weekly paper in the interest of that denomination. This paper claims the largest weekly circulation of any religious paper in this section.

In addition to the above publications, Mr. Chas. P. Dement has one of the most thoroughly equipped job printing establishments in the State and turns out as good work as can be obtained in the larger cities.

Mr. J. J. Dement is also engaged in the job printing business and has an excellent collection of materials.

SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, HOTELS, ETC.

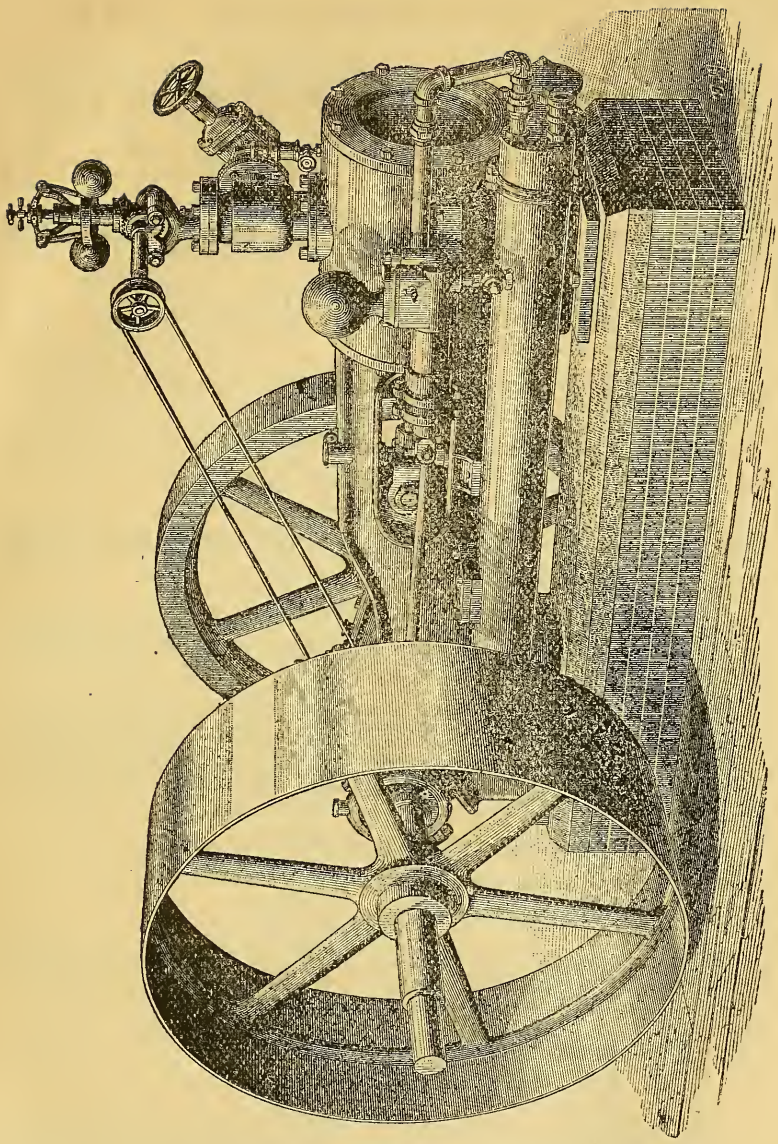
The Meridian Female College, (Baptist) the East Mississippi Female College, (Methodist) the St. Aloysius Female Academy, (Catholic) and several schools for males. We have besides, public schools for both white and colored children. The trustees of the public schools have purchased lands on which to erect suitable buildings for the same. There are over sixty public schools in the county.

Nearly all denominations are represented here. There are three Baptist, three Methodist, two Presbyterian, one Episcopal, one Catholic and one Hebrew Temple. We have three good hotels with ample room for the present population. Our public buildings are: Courthouse, City Hall, Opera House, and an Insane Asylum costing over $100,000. Messrs. J. J. O'Neal & Sons have a complete marble yard and do the largest business of any similar firm. Their work will compete with like work done in any section of the union. Their work is sent all over this State and West Alabama.

OTHER INDUCEMENTS.

Mr. L. A. Ragsdale, who is the largest real estate owner here, informs the writer that he will offer extra inducements to those coming among us to engage in manufacturing of any kind.

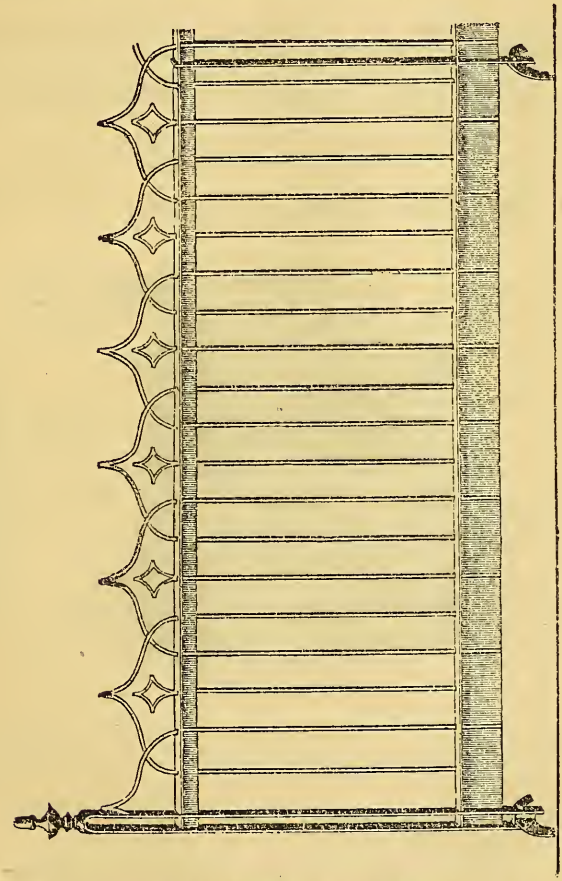
Last, but greatest, we offer you the best of health with no epidemics of any sort. In proof of which, we will state that our mortality is not quite ten to the 1,000 inhabitants.



Meteor, 15 Horse Power,	$250
Reliable, 25 Horse Power,	325
Hercules, 35 Horse Power,	450
Peerless No. 1, 45 Horse Power,	500
Peerless No. 2, 60 Horse Power,	550

NO TROUBLE
PUTTING UP THIS FENCE.

It Has No Rivets or Bolts to Work Loose.



Price at Factory, From $1.00 to $2.25, Per Linear Foot.

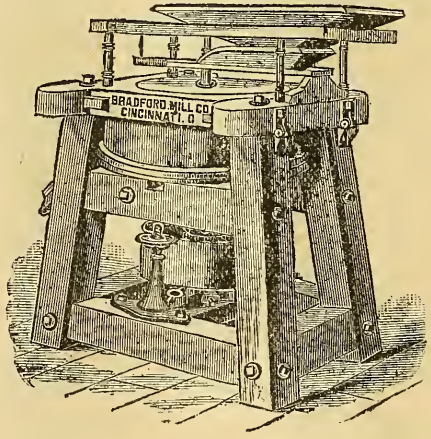
STEVENSON & CO.,
City Mills Machinery Agency,
MERIDIAN, MISS.

Bradford Mill Co.'s Mills

THE STANDARD.

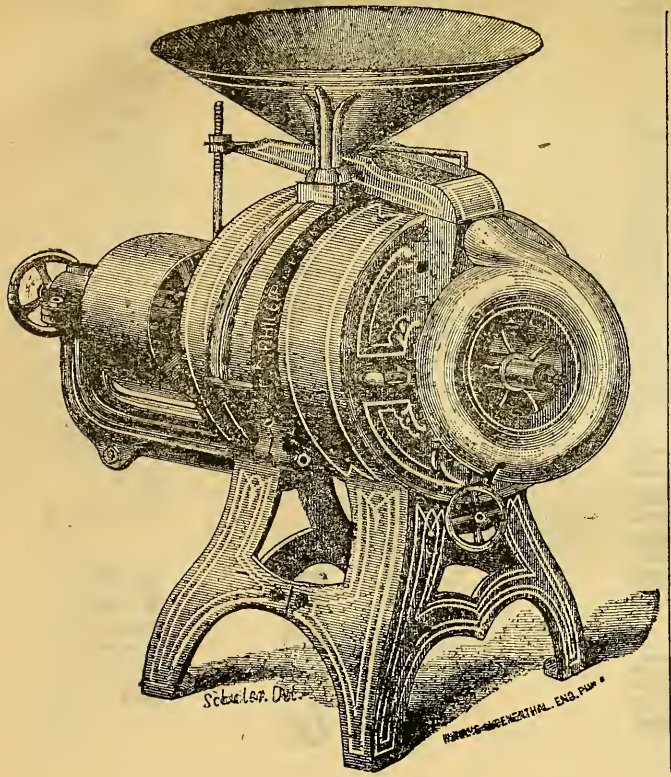
Every Mill of French Buhr and even Grit. Iron back on the Runner with eye Bush on one piece. Therefore, no pushing of the Eye Bush through the Mill.

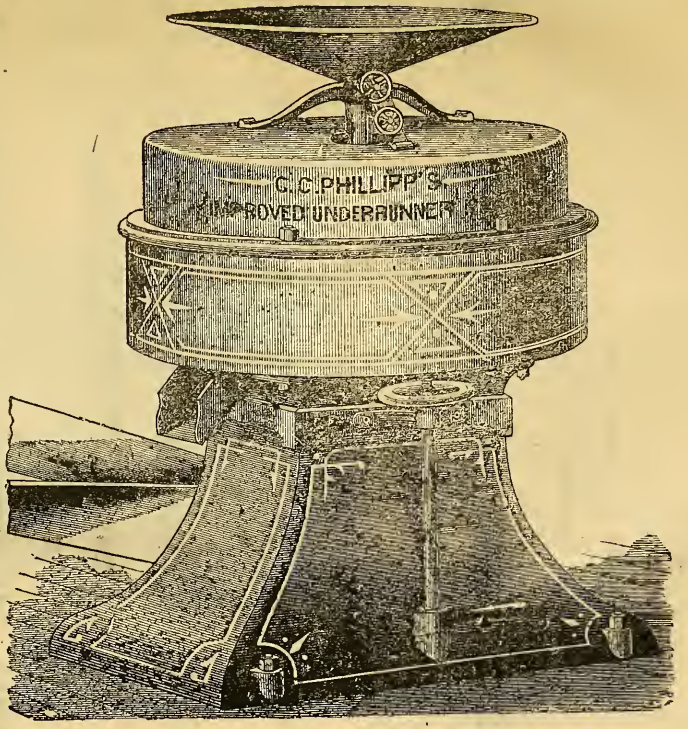
DON'T MISTAKE THIS MILL FOR ONE OF VERY NEAR THE SAME NAME.



Iron Bridge Tree, Iron Girt, Adjustable Followers with Set Screw and Oil Fountains. Grinds more and better meal with a lower rate of Speed and with less power than any other Mill.

THE PHILLIPS VERTICAL & UNDER RUNNER MILLS.





STEVENSON & CO., City Mills Machinery Agency.
MERIDIAN, MISS.

Smith, Myers & Schnier.

BEST MATERIAL

—AND—

WORKMAMSHIP.

EVERY BOILER TESTED AT THE FACTORY

—BY THE—

HARTFORD STEAM BOILER INSPECTION AND INSURANCE COMPANY.

CERTIFICATE OF SAME ACCOMPANY EACH BOILER.

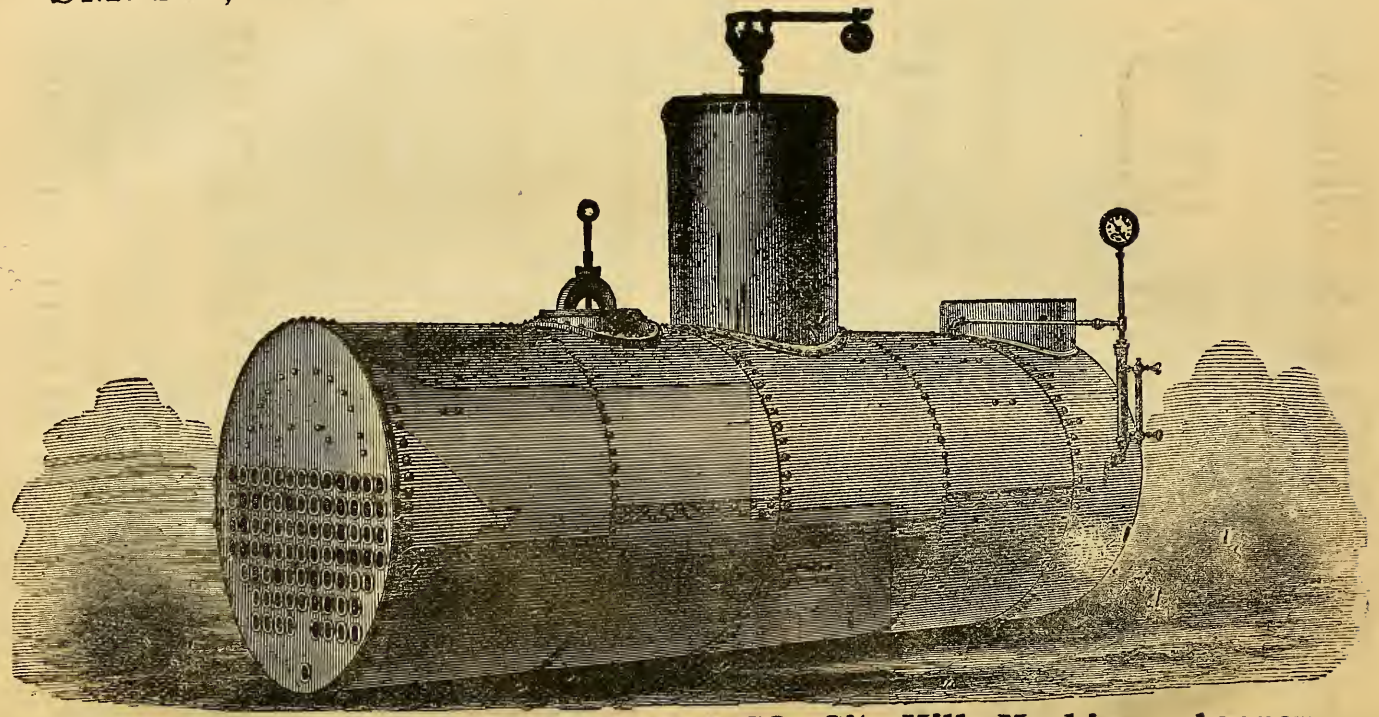
—o—

Correspondence solicited.

STEVENSON & CO., City Mills Machinery Agency,

MERIDIAN, MISS.

SMITH, MYERS & SCHNIER'S MACHINE WORKS.



Correspondence solicited.

STEVENSON & CO., City Mills Machinery Agency.

SMITH, MYERS & SCHNIER'S

CELEBRATED

PLANTATION SAW MILLS!

Frame either Made of Solid Iron, or Wooden sides and Iron ends as desired.

Bearings are 9 inches long, and are lined with the

BEST BABBIT METAL.

Feed Works of the most Improved Pattern.

PACKING AND FEED PULLEYS OF PAPER.

PATENT SAW GUIDE,

Which enables Sawyer to change lead of Saw while in Motion.

Saw Can be Removed from Mandrel Without Disturbing Guide.

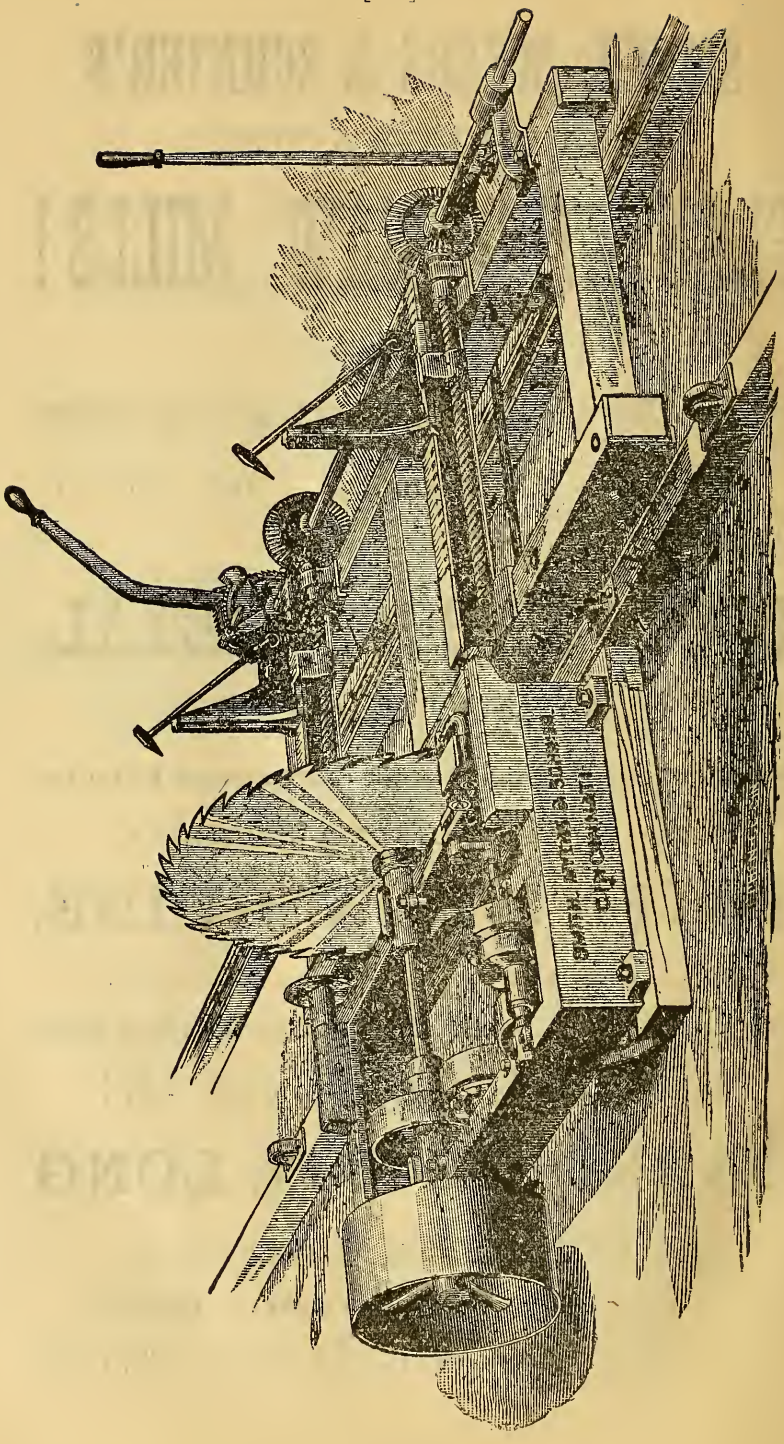
Revolving Wedge with each Mill.

CARRIAGE 18 Ft. LONG

STEVENSON & CO.,

City Mills Machinery Agency,

MERIDIAN, MISS.


BRITISH MUSEUM